

RAMP'S ASSOCIATION DEVELOPMENT IN AFGHANISTAN

RAMP is working in nine provinces with 39 associations comprised of 5,571 farmers, widows, traders, processors, and/or exporters. These associations were established to add value to commercial volumes of agricultural products. The activities of these associations include cleaning, grading, sorting, warehousing, cold storage, washing, drying, packaging, and marketing. Members of these associations have typically contributed land, 20 to 50% of the cost of the machinery and equipment, and, in some cases, part of the cost of the processing plant. By forming an association with defined by-laws, the members have better access to credit, inputs, machinery, equipment, and markets.

RAMP's efforts in establishing and assisting these associations have provided a large number of ambitious entrepreneurs the opportunity to add value to commercial volumes of agricultural products that have significant demand in domestic, regional, and/or international markets. The farmers involved in the Water User's Associations are able to operate in a legal and more manageable environment that assures equitable and efficient access to scarce irrigation water.

RAMP's work with these associations has been successful because Afghans are very willing to form groups and work together when the investment, risks, and returns are shared. Moreover, the businesses that these associations are engaged in have the potential to expand and increase the value added to their products marketed. Many Afghans have recognized the business opportunities that have been made available to those associations established and assisted by RAMP. As a result, membership in RAMP-supported associations has been increasing and groups of farmers and/or merchants have approached RAMP for assistance in forming associations with specific agri-business activities in mind.

Province	Name	Members	Number of Members	Major Activity	RAMP Implementing Partner	Association Contribution	Operational Status	Legal Status
Kandahar	Fresh Fruits Exporter Association	Farmer and Traders	90	Cold storage and fresh fruit processing center	GIA/ROP	50% value of the equipment and land for the facility	Have building and 2 cold rooms. Working and exporting	By-laws approved by General Assembly.
	Dried Fruit and Nuts Processors Association	Traders	34	Dried fruit and nut processing plant	GIA/ROP	50% value of equipment and additional cost of building (over \$50.000). Land for the facility	Building almost finished. Machinery and plant fully operable next spring.	By-laws approved by General Assembly
Helmand	Bolan Progressive Association	Farmers	70	Cold storage center	GIA	50% value of equipment. Land for the facility	Started construction of building. Next spring fully operable.	By-laws approved by General Assembly
	Widows Association	Widows	200	Tomato paste, jams, pickle processing plant	GIA	Land for the facility.	Building construction starting in 1 week. Machinery and plant fully operable next spring.	By-laws approved by General Assembly
	Nad-I-Ali Farmers Association	Farmers	60	Cold storage center	GIA	50% value equipment and land for the facility	Farmers deciding location of the Center.	By-laws will be prepared in December 2005
	Traders Association	Lashkargah Central Market Traders	15	Cold storage center	GIA	50% value of equipment. Land for the facility	Traders getting organized. Construction of building will start in 2 weeks.	By-laws will be prepared in December 2005
	Lashkargah Center Seed Producer Association	Farmers/traders	10	Production/marketing of improved seed of wheat, rice, mung beans, vegetables, and other crops	ICARDA	Ready to pay 20% of machinery price	Farmers trained in agribusiness and improved seed production, cleaning, handling, storing and marketing. Seed cleaner provided	By-laws and business plans completed, Association to be registered with MAAHF
	Nade-Ali Seed Producers'	Farmers/traders	10	Production/marketing of improved seed of wheat, rice, mung	ICARDA	Ready to pay 20% of machinery price	Farmers trained in agribusiness and improved seed	By-laws and business plans completed,

	Association (VBSE)			beans, vegetables, and other crops			production, cleaning, handling, storing and marketing. Seed cleaner provided	Association to be registered with MAAHF
	Nawa Seed Producers' Association (VBSE)	Farmers/traders	10	Production/marketing of improved seed of wheat, rice, mung beans, vegetables, and other crops	ICARDA	Ready to pay 20% of machinery price	Farmers trained in agribusiness and improved seed production, cleaning, handling, storing and marketing. Seed cleaner provided	By-laws and business plans completed, Association to be registered with MAAHF
	Grishk Seed Producers' Association (VBSE)	Farmers/Traders	10	Production/marketing of improved seed of wheat, rice, mung beans, vegetables, and other crops	ICARDA	Ready to pay 20% of machinery price	Farmers trained in agribusiness and improved seed production, cleaning, handling, storing and marketing.	By-laws and business plans completed, Association to be registered with MAAHF
	Nad-i-Ali Water Users' Association	Farmers	2000+	Improve the sustainability and productivity of irrigation water through transfer of irrigation management responsibility and authority to the Water Users' Association	DAI	Management will enforce equitable user-pays water deliveries; with the funds the Association will maintain and rehabilitate/build facilities, enforce regulations.	New water law is being reviewed for approval by the Ministry of Energy and Water after which it will be sent to the Ministry of Justice and the Cabinet for final approval	By-laws approved by General Assembly of 160 representatives
	Marja Water Users' Association	Farmers	2000+	Improve the sustainability and productivity of irrigation water through transfer of irrigation management responsibility and authority to the Water Users' Association	DAI	Management will enforce equitable user-pays water deliveries; with the funds the Association will maintain and rehabilitate/build facilities, enforce regulations.	New water law is being reviewed for approval by the Ministry of Energy and Water after which it will be sent to the Ministry of Justice and the Cabinet for final approval	By-laws approved by General Assembly of 160 representatives
Kunduz	Kunduz Center Crop Producers' Association	Farmers/traders	50	Warehousing (storage) and grading/sorting of agricultural products	GIA	Land for warehouse	Warehouse in use. Farmers trained in warehousing grain	By-laws completed

	Chardara Crop Producers' Association	Farmers	50	Warehousing (storage) and grading/sorting of agricultural products	GIA	Land for warehouse	Warehouse in use. Farmers trained in warehousing grain	By-laws completed
	Khan Abad Crop Producers' Association	Farmers/traders	35	Warehousing (storage) and grading/sorting of agricultural products	GIA	Land for warehouse	Warehouse in use. Farmers trained in warehousing grain	By-laws completed
	Imam Sahib Crop Producers' Association	Farmers/traders	50	Warehousing (storage) and grading/sorting of agricultural products	GIA	Land for warehouse	Warehouse in use. Farmers trained in warehousing grain	By-laws completed
	Kunduz Center Seed Producers' Association (VBSE)	Farmers/traders	15	Production/marketing of improved seed of wheat, rice, mung beans, vegetables, and other crops	ICARDA	Ready to pay 20% of machinery price	Farmers trained in agribusiness and improved seed production and marketing. Farmers trained in warehousing grain. Seed cleaner provided	By-laws and business plans completed, Association to be registered with MAAHF
	Chardara Seed Producers' Association (VBSE)	Farmers/traders	15	Production/marketing of improved seed of wheat, rice, mung beans, vegetables, and other crops	ICARDA	Ready to pay 20% downpayment on farm machinery. Paid 50% of pallets, land for warehouse	Warehouse in use. Farmers trained in agribusiness and improved seed production. Farmers trained in warehousing grain. Seed cleaner provided	By-laws and business plans completed, Association to be registered with MAAHF
	Khan Abad Seed Producers' Association (VBSE)	Farmers/traders	15	Production/marketing of improved seed of wheat, rice, mung beans, vegetables, and other crops	ICARDA	Ready to pay 20% downpayment on farm machinery.	Farmers trained in agribusiness and improved seed production cleaning, handling, storing and marketing. Farmers trained in warehousing grain. Seed cleaner provided	By-laws and business plans completed, Association to be registered with MAAHF
	Ali Abad	Farmers/traders	15	Production/marketing	ICARDA	Farmers provided land for	Warehouse in use.	By-laws and

	Seed Producers' Association (VBSE)			of improved seed of wheat, rice, mung beans, vegetables, and other crops		warehouse; ready to pay 20% of farm machinery price	Farmers trained in agribusiness and improved seed production cleaning, handling, storing and marketing. Farmers trained in warehousing grain. Seed cleaner provided	business plans completed, Association to be registered with MAAHF
	Archi Seed Producers' Association (VBSE)	Farmers/traders	15	Production/marketing of improved seed of wheat, rice, mung beans, vegetables, and other crops	ICARDA	Farmers provided land for warehouse; ready to pay 20% of farm machinery price	Warehouse in use. Farmers trained in agribusiness and improved seed production, cleaning, handling, storing and marketing. Farmers trained in warehousing grain Seed cleaner provided.	By-laws and business plans completed, Association to be registered with MAAHF
	Imam Sahib Seed Producers' Association (VBSE)	Farmers/traders	15	Production/marketing of improved seed of wheat, rice, mung beans, vegetables, and other crops	ICARDA	Ready to pay 20% of farm machinery price	Farmers trained in agribusiness and improved seed production cleaning, handling, storing and marketing. Farmers trained in warehousing grain Seed cleaner provided.	By-laws and business plans completed, Association to be registered with MAAHF
	Kataghan Fish Farmers' Association	Farmers	50	Technical assistance in pond construction, fish farming technologies, and marketing; access to inputs and equity capital	ICARDA provided inputs for Mojadiddi's fish farm demonstration for two years leading to adoption by these farmers	By being member of Association, farmer contributes 30%, private investor/Mojadiddi 30%, and Mercy Corps 40% of all investment and first year's operating costs	Farmers constructing ponds; arrangements made for supplying fish fingerlings	Association formed and by-laws approved by Association

Herat	Karoch Womens' Association	Women	50+	Jams, jellies, candies, and pickle processing plant	GIA	Land for the facility.	Building construction starting in 1 week. Machinery and plant fully operable next spring	By-laws will be prepared in December 2005
Mazar-i-Sharif	Dried Fruit and Nuts Processors Association	Traders	20	Dried fruit and nut processing plant	ROP	50% value of equipment and additional cost of building (over \$50.00). Land for the facility	Building almost finished. Machinery and plant fully operable next spring	By-laws approved by General Assembly
Kabul	Dried Fruit and Nuts Processors Association	Traders	16	Dried fruit and nut processing plant	GIA/ROP	50% value of equipment and additional cost of building (over \$50.000). Land for the facility	Building almost finished. Machinery and plant fully operable next spring	By-laws approved by General Assembly
Ghazni	MIrbachakot Processors' Association	Farmers/traders	25	Processing and cold storage center for grapes and raisins	ROP/GIA	50% value of equipment	Building and cold rooms operable. Working and exporting.	Association is to be established.
	Ghazni Center Seed Producers' Association	Farmers/traders	10	Production/marketing of improved seed of wheat, rice, mung beans, vegetables, and other crops	ICARDA	Ready to pay 20% of machinery price	Farmers trained in agribusiness and improved seed production, cleaning, handling, storing and marketing.. Seed cleaners provided	By-laws and business plans completed, Association to be registered with MAAHF
	Khuaja Omri Seed Producers' Association	Farmers/Traders	10	Production/marketing of improved seed of wheat, rice, mung beans, vegetables, and other crops	ICARDA	Ready to pay 20% of machinery price	Farmers trained in agribusiness and improved seed production, cleaning, handling, storing and marketing..	By-laws and business plans completed, Association to be registered with MAAHF
	Qara Bagh Seed Producers' Association	Farmers/traders	10	Production/marketing of improved seed of wheat, rice, mung beans, vegetables, and other crops	ICARDA	Ready to pay 20% of machinery price	Farmers trained in agribusiness and improved seed production, cleaning, handling, storing and marketing.. Seed cleaners provided	By-laws and business plans completed, Association to be registered with MAAHF
Parwan	Charikar	Farmers/traders	10	Production/marketing	ICARDA	Ready to pay 20% of farm	Farmers trained in	By-laws and

Seed Producers' Association			of improved seed of wheat, rice, mung beans, vegetables, and other crops		machinery price	agribusiness and improved seed production, cleaning, handling, storing and marketing.. Seed cleaners provided	business plans completed, Association to be registered with MAAHF
Bagram Seed Producers' Association	Farmers/traders	10	Production/marketing of improved seed of wheat, rice, mung beans, vegetables, and other crops	ICARDA	Ready to pay 20% of farm machinery price	Farmers trained in agribusiness and improved seed production, cleaning, handling, storing and marketing. Seed cleaner provided	By-laws and business plans completed, Association to be registered with MAAHF
Jabalusaraj Seed Producers' Association	Farmers/traders	10	Production/marketing of improved seed of wheat, rice, mung beans, vegetables, and other crops	ICARDA	Ready to pay 20% of farm machinery price	Farmers trained in agribusiness and improved seed production, cleaning, handling, storing and marketing.	By-laws and business plans completed, Association to be registered with MAAHF
Parwan Dehydrates Association	Farmers	500+	Dried vegetable processing and exporting	DWC	Farmers provide vegetables to factory; farmers contribute \$55,000 in funds or like assets and receive 40% ownership	Factory processing and exporting dried vegetables; farmers provided assistance in forming Association	Association or Company in the process of being established
Behsud Seed Producer Association	Farmers/Traders	10	Production/marketing of improved seed of wheat, rice, mung beans, vegetables, and other crops	ICARDA	Ready to pay 20% of farm machinery price	Farmers trained in agribusiness and improved seed production, cleaning, handling, storing and marketing. Seed cleaner provided	By-laws and business plans completed, Association to be registered with MAAHF
Kama Seed Producer Association	Farmers/traders	10	Production/marketing of improved seed of wheat, rice, mung beans, vegetables, and other crops	ICARDA	Ready to pay 20% of farm machinery price	Farmers trained in agribusiness and improved seed production, cleaning, handling, storing and marketing. Seed cleaner provided	By-laws and business plans completed, Association to be registered with MAAHF
Khiwa Seed	Farmers/traders	10	Production/marketing	ICARDA	Ready to pay 20% of farm	Farmers trained in	By-laws and

Producer Association			of improved seed of wheat, rice, mung beans, vegetables, and other crops		machinery price	agribusiness and improved seed production, cleaning, handling, storing and marketing. Seed cleaner provided	business plans completed, Association to be registered with MAAHF
Surkhrud Seed Producer Association	Farmers/traders	10	Production/marketing of improved seed of wheat, rice, mung beans, vegetables, and other crops	ICARDA	Ready to pay 20% of farm machinery price	Farmers trained in agribusiness and improved seed production, cleaning, handling, storing and marketing. Seed cleaner provided	By-laws and business plans completed, Association to be registered with MAAHF
Khogiani Seed Producer Association	Farmers/traders	10	Production/marketing of improved seed of wheat, rice, mung beans, vegetables, and other crops	ICARDA	Ready to pay 20% of farm machinery price	Farmers trained in agribusiness and improved seed production, cleaning, handling, storing and marketing.	By-laws and business plans completed, Association to be registered with MAAHF